

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for inhibiting growth of fauna on a ship hull, comprising the step of:
 - (a.) bubbling a gas which reduces the oxidation potential of water, in proximity to the hull.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said gas is nitrogen-enriched air.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said gas is nitrogen.
4. A method for inhibiting growth of fauna on a ship hull, comprising the step of:
 - (a.) bubbling a nitrogen-rich gas into water in proximity to the hull.
5. The method of Claim 4, wherein said gas is nitrogen.
6. The method of Claim 4, wherein said gas is nitrogen-enriched air.
7. A demountable anti-fouling system, comprising:
 - bubbler hoses having a gas-permeable surface;
 - gas-supply connections which provide, to said bubbler hoses, a gas composition which is less oxidizing than atmospheric air; and
 - mechanical supports which hold said bubbler hoses in proximity to the outer surface of a vessel's hull.

8. A hull-mounted anti-fouling system, comprising:
 - a vessel hull have a fluid network emplaced therein;
 - bubbler outlets mounted in said hull and connected to said fluid network; and
 - a controllable source of a non-oxidizing gas connected to said fluid network.
9. A slip-based anti-fouling system, comprising:
 - a flexible fluid network having slip-based bubbler outlets therein; and
 - flotation units connected to lift said bubble outlets when gas pressure is applied thereto, and to position said bubble outlets in close proximity to a vessel's hull.